

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. **Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).**

1. Name of Property

historic name Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum

other names/site number	Free Speech Corner, removal of St. Francis Xavier School
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2. Location

street & number Higgins Avenue and Front Street (100 West Front) ☐ not for publication

city or town Missoula vicinity

state	Montana	code	063	county	Missoula	code	063	zip code	59802
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3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide x local

Signature of certifying official/Title
Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official
Date

Title	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government
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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

____ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

_____ determined not eligible for the National Register

____ removed from the National Register

____ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action
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Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	private
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	public - Local
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - State
<input type="checkbox"/>	public - Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	building(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	district
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	site
<input type="checkbox"/>	structure
<input type="checkbox"/>	object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
		buildings
		district
1		site
		structure
		object
1		Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

Historic Resources of Missoula MPD (1990)

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

490

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION: Pedestrian-related

RELIGION: Church School

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

TRANSPORTATION: Pedestrian-related

Demolished

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

N.A.

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions.)

foundation: _____

walls: _____

roof: _____

other: CONCRETE

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

Summary Paragraph

This is an addendum to the existing Missoula Downtown Historic District and East Pine Street Historic District Amendment that was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2009. The city of Missoula is located in the west-central part of Montana and is the hub of five valleys. The Clark Fork River runs through its center and marks the southern boundary of the older historic core, with the Northern Pacific Railroad (BNSF/Rail-Link) tracks serving as the northern boundary. Missoula is county seat for Missoula County and is the largest urban center of western Montana. This addendum adds one site and deletes one building. The site, Free Speech Corner, is added to the Downtown Historic District. The building, St. Francis Xavier Elementary School (also known as St. Joseph's Elementary), was demolished and is no longer a contributing element of the Downtown Historic District. Free Speech Corner commemorates the first "Free Speech Fight", in which the International Workers of the World (IWW) staged a labor event in September 1909 that began at the intersection of Higgins Avenue and Front Street in downtown Missoula. For a detailed description of the history and other features associated with the historic district, please see *Missoula Downtown Historic District and East Pine Street Historic District Amendment, National Register of Historic Places nomination form* (listed September 21, 2009).

Narrative Description

The Missoula Downtown Historic District (listed September 2009) encompasses fifty-two (52) full and four (4) partial blocks, and includes the East Pine Street Historic District, which is encompassed by the downtown commercial and residential core. The downtown district contains a total of 589 contributing and noncontributing buildings and sites that include primary and ancillary buildings, most of which are sheds and garages associated with the individually eligible and contributing properties. Eighty-two percent of the district's main buildings and 72% of associated auxiliary buildings (including sheds and garages) are contributing elements. Thirteen percent of the district's contributing properties were individually listed in the National Register. The Missoula Downtown Historic District incorporated the East Pine Street Historic District. Many of the contributing buildings in the Downtown historic district would be considered individually eligible for National Register listing because they retain a high level of integrity and possess exceptional historical and/or architectural values. Four hundred and ninety contributing resources occur in the combined Missoula Downtown and East Pine Street historic districts. The remaining 18% of buildings in the district are considered noncontributing elements. These include properties constructed after the period of significance and historic buildings that have been extensively altered in recent years that display very little, if any, of their original qualities of design, materials and workmanship.

This addendum adds Free Speech Corner to the Missoula Downtown Historic District as a contributing site and removes St. Francis Xavier School as a contributing building to the district due to its demolition.

The setting for Free Speech Corner is the crossroad of commerce and social control of the Missoula Region in 1909 – the corner of Higgins Avenue and Front Street. During the period of the late 1880s and early 1890s, the simple architecture of the prior years (detailing, if any occurred at all, usually consisting of simple bracketed projecting cornices), began to be replaced by larger and more ornate buildings reflecting the wealth that had flowed into the city as a result of the railroad. Between 1888 and 1892, A.B. Hammond and his associates directed construction of three major buildings at the intersection of Front Street and Higgins Avenue, which was fast becoming one of the liveliest commercial centers in the state. Those structures were the First National Bank Building, the Hammond Building and the Florence Hotel, named after Hammond's wife. The fourth building occupying the intersection was the Missoula Mercantile building, which was already constructed. Each of these towering edifices represented exuberance of massing and design surpassing anything Missoula had seen up to that point. Tons of granite and brick were transformed into statements rivaling the commercial buildings of Helena and other bastions of wealth. The conical turret of the First National Bank Building competed with the castellated battlements of the Hammond Building, which in turn, towered above the metal cornice of the Florence, like a medieval castle. These buildings announced to the world that Missoula had transformed from a western town to a

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

prosperous modern city not immune to architectural sophistication. In 1909, these buildings set the stage for Missoula's dialectic between labor and capital.

Three of the four buildings at Higgins Avenue and Front Street, the Hammond Building, the Florence and the First National Bank Building, would all eventually disappear from this bustling intersection. The first two were victims of fire and the last was a victim of "modernization through demolition" in the 1960s. However, the Missoula Mercantile Building remains and continues to reflect its historic associations. While the Hammond Building, the original Florence Hotel and the First National Bank Building no longer remain, the intersection does boast three buildings individually listed in the National Register, including the Missoula Mercantile Building.

The Missoula Mercantile Building occupies the northeast corner of the intersection. Constructed in 1883, the Missoula Mercantile is a large and generally rectangular, two story commercial building with a flat parapeted roof with arcaded and dentilated cornice. The front (west elevation) displays a large wooden cornice with scrolled brackets and dentiles over brick dentilation. This building was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on April 30, 1990 (Babcock 1989a).

The Hammond Arcade occupies the southwest corner of the intersection. The single story Hammond Arcade was constructed in 1934 and was one of the few commercial buildings constructed in Missoula during the Depression. Art Deco in style, the bays of the brick commercial building are demarcated by stepped polychrome brick battlements, and polychrome brick walls. The Hammond Arcade building replaced the original Hammond Building which was constructed in 1890 but destroyed by fire in the early 1930s. The Hammond Arcade Building was listed in the National Register on April 30, 1990 (Babcock 1989b).

The most recent rendition of the Florence Hotel sits on the northwest corner of the intersection. Constructed in 1941, the Art Moderne style seven story hotel is constructed of reinforced concrete. The building's exterior presents a design of streamlined simplicity, with a futuristic impression. Parallel modern lines and smooth-faced concrete piers dominate the façade. Architectural concrete comprise the vertical members, while the spandrels and the horizontal members of the walls are finished with terra-cotta tiles. A continuous band of terra-cotta tiles separate the first floor retail space from the upper stories on the south and west elevations of the buildings. The spandrels and the continuous band create the horizontal lines often associated with Art Moderne structures. The present iteration of the Florence Hotel replaced the previous hotel which burned in 1936; the earlier hotel replaced the original Florence hotel which was built in 1888 but burned in 1913. The present Florence Hotel was listed in the National Register on June 18, 1992 (Butterfield 1991).

The southeast corner, originally the site of the First National Bank Building demolished in the 1960s, is outside the district boundaries. A brand new bank building replaces the original building.

While the integrity of setting, workmanship, design, and materials at Free Speech Corner has been somewhat compromised by the loss of three original buildings that once occupied the intersection, the loss is not great enough to offset the positive integrity of location, feeling, and association to consider Free Speech Corner a contributing element of the Missoula Downtown Historic District. One building present at the time of the Free Speech protests, the Missoula Mercantile Building, still stands at the intersection of Free Speech Corner. Although two other buildings present at the intersection post date the activity associated with Free Speech Corner, their historic facades combined with the presence of the Missoula Mercantile Building, still evoke the feeling of what the intersection would have been like during the turbulent Free Speech Fight associated with Free Speech Corner.

St. Francis Xavier School (also known as St. Joseph's Elementary School) was located in the 400 block of West Spruce, and was a contributing building in the "Catholic Block". The building sat directly north of the Rectory and St. Joseph's High School. The school, essentially H-shaped in plan, displayed a central two-story rectangular block with eight classrooms. It contained a north facing low-profile gable parapet center pavilion; entrance doors occurred symmetrically in recesses separating the east and west wings. The east wing housed the gymnasium and the west wing the auditorium; each contained a north facing low-profile centered gable parapet, which rose slightly to each corner. The main, north elevation, fronted West Pine Street. The building was a modern low-rise transitional composition relating to the Art Moderne style. It was demolished by the parish in 2010, and replaced with a parking lot. The building is removed from the list of contributing buildings in the Missoula Downtown Historic District.

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☒ B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☐ C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ B removed from its original location.
- ☐ C a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ D a cemetery.
- ☐ E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ F a commemorative property.
- ☐ G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Social History

Politics/Government

Other – Labor Relations

Period of Significance

1874-1959

Significant Dates

September 1909

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

Jack Jones

Frank Little

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Period of Significance (justification)

The Period of Significance for the historic district is 1875-1960. Nineteen hundred and nine is the significant date associated with Free Speech Corner—the time the activism actually occurred.

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Criteria Considerations (explanation, if necessary)

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

For a complete description of the Significance of the downtown historic district, please see *Missoula Downtown Historic District and East Pine Street Historic District Amendment* (listed September 21, 2009). Free Speech Corner is considered a contributing element of the Missoula Downtown Historic District at the local level of significance under Criteria A and B. Free Speech Corner is contributing under Criterion A for its strong association with the city's evolving patterns of political, economic and social history during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As the downtown grew, it became an important site for financial and governmental institutions as well as social and transportation related facilities. In Montana, Missoula is generally associated with a "free speech" social persona, and an inclusive community identity that is considered more liberal than most other Montana towns. The fall of 1909 witnessed sufficient labor abuse and unrest in the Missoula region to cause the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) to stage a labor event in Missoula. The goal of the IWW was to organize timber, lumber and mining laborers into labor organizations for the purpose of collective action to secure their rights as workers with the companies they for whom they worked. The action in Missoula in 1909 sparked other "free speech fights" around the United States in the period from 1909 to 1918. The roots of the Free Speech movement began in Missoula on this site.

Under National Register Criterion B, is the association of "Free Speech Corner" with the I.W.W., Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, her husband Jack Jones, and Frank Little. Gurley Flynn (1890-1964) was a legendary activist and fiery speaker for human and civil rights. She was a founding member of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and chaired the Workers Defense Union and its successor, International Labor Defense. Her husband at the time, Jack Jones was also significant in his role as leader of labor organizing efforts across the northwest and in eastern states. Frank Little was a Butte, Montana, labor leader who participated in the Missoula free speech events, and was ultimately hanged by men who were rumored to be mining company agents in 1917.

In addition to the inclusion of Free Speech Corner as a contributing element of the Missoula Downtown Historic District, this Addendum also notes the demolition of the St. Francis Xavier Elementary School (also referred to as St. Joseph's Elementary School) within the Missoula Downtown Historic District. The demolition of the school has resulted in a complete lack of integrity with the result it is no longer a as a contributing element of the Missoula Downtown Historic District.

Narrative Statement of Significance

 (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Between 1902 and 1912, an industrial boom hit the region, primarily as the result of railroad expansion by the Northern Pacific, a nationwide increase in the demand for lumber products and improved agricultural methods and machinery. Regionally, those sectors were controlled by the Missoula Mercantile/First National Bank/ business complex, whose center of financial activity was housed in the buildings at all four corners of the intersection of Higgins Avenue and Front Streets. The Free Speech Fight brought national notoriety to Missoula, and nearly bankrupted the city of Missoula.

By 1909, Missoula was booming. In addition to the number of new buildings being built, improvements included the construction of a new steel bridge across the Clark Fork River, paid in part by a \$20,000 grant from William Clark, Butte Copper King, and owner of the Missoula Light and Water company, and the establishment of the new electric trolley company, which would soon be able to cross the river. During this boom of construction and growth, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, her husband Jack Jones, Frank Little and others of the IWW arrived in Missoula to organize workers into unions.

The origins of the IWW date back to 1905 with their founding in Chicago at the "Industrial Congress" (also known as the "Industrial Union Convention"), an important event in the history of industrial unionism and the American Labor Movement.

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Promotion of worker solidarity served as the goal of the IWW. An early IWW event occurred in Goldfield, Nevada in 1906. Further recognition of the IWW occurred with their stand on free speech. By 1917, the IWW was the most radical labor union America has ever seen using tactics such as violence, sabotage, subversion, and street riots (Toole 1984); however, in Missoula in 1909, the "speakers" resisted non-violently.

During the "free speech" activities in 1909, the City fathers objected to the public speaking of the IWW organizers and their sympathizers. The city police jailed scores of "speakers", many of whom were reading the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights and the US Constitution out loud from a wooden box on the sidewalks of Free Speech Corner. Those arrested requested meals and jury trials, and word got out that there was a "free speech fight" in Missoula.

The goal of the IWW was to create one BIG labor union that would be able to combat unethical and illegal labor practices. In western Montana, there was a practice occurred where employment agents, known as "sharks", would negotiate the hiring of temporary workers for mines, lumber mills and logging companies. The "sharks" would require a fee from the laborer, who were then subsequently fired by the Bosses after a day's work; the bosses in turn split the "finder" fee with the "sharks". The central location for labor action in Missoula was the intersection of Front and Higgins streets, because this was the center of capital and industry for the complex of business interests of the Missoula Mercantile, the First National Bank, the Montana Improvement Company and their subsidiaries and partners. A Missoula city ordinance prohibited blocking sidewalks. This ordinance was interpreted by the police as a prohibition against public speaking, as public speaking drew crowds resulting in the blockage of sidewalks. The idea of the "free speech fight", or "war" as it came to be known, was to gather workers and sympathizers to protest these unfair labor practices, and to get the workers and sympathizers to organize and to become members of the IWW. They were also trying to shut down the employment agencies responsible for the graft and abuse. This was a non-violent practical response to labor strikes and violent demonstrations, and the intent was to break down the rule of the capitalist conglomerates and to create fair labor standards.

In September, Gurley Flynn, Jack Jones, Frank Little and others assembled on a wooden box and "spoke". When she spoke, Flynn lambasted the employment agencies, and "sharks" who worked in cahoots with employers. In his book, Clem Work quoted a Wobblies' description of the racket:

"As soon as a man had worked long enough to pay the shark's fee, the hospital dollar, poll tax and a few other grafts, he was discharged to make room for more slaves, so that the fleecing process could continue" (Missoulain, Sept. 7, 2009).

As people spoke, they were given copies of the US Constitution and Bill of Rights to read out loud. As one was arrested, another would take up the cause. The jail soon filled to capacity, people demanded meals and jury trials, and the national press reported on the "Free Speech Fight" across the country – though no Missoula paper reported on it in depth. Workers and organizers came to Missoula from all over the inland northwest. The City was going broke dealing with the prisoners – feeding them, trying them with juries -- and getting bad publicity as far away as New York City. Finally the city leaders gave in, and stopped the arrests. These fights happened all around the country, and many of them ended brutally and violently, like the ones in Fresno and San Diego, California. Free Speech had won, and in Missoula, without violence.

Gurley Flynn (1890-1964) was a legendary activist and fiery speaker for human and civil rights. She was a founding member of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and chaired the Workers Defense Union and its successor, International Labor Defense. She was born in New Hampshire, the daughter of socialist parents, and was expelled from high school in 1907, when she went to work for the IWW. She championed workers rights, women's rights and promoted the "day care" practice for children that allowed mothers to join the work force just like men. As a labor organizer, and later an active member of the Communist Party, she was arrested several times, but never convicted of any crimes, until after World War II when in 1952, she was tried and convicted of sedition and was sent to prison for two years. In Montana, Gurley Flynn also went on to Butte, and to Kalispell, Montana where the IWW lead a lumber strike. She wrote many articles and two books, *The Rebel Girl, An Autobiography: My First Life* (revised edition, 1973) and *The Alderson Story: My Life as a Political Prisoner* (1955). She died in 1964 in Moscow, Russia.

Jack Jones (1872-1940) was also significant in his role as leader of labor organizing efforts across the northwest and in eastern states. Jack A. Jones began his career as an organizer of the Minnesota IWW. Jones was Gurley Flynn's

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

associate, who had met her earlier in 1908 and invited her to a speaking tour in the Mesabi Iron Range north of Duluth where he was an organizer for the Western Federation of Miners. They eventually married and Gurley Flynn was pregnant in the fall of 1909 when she and Jones came to Missoula. Their first child died soon after childbirth. Their son, Fred, was born in 1910; however, by the time of Fred's birth, Jones and Gurley Flynn were already separated. Jones was founder of the Dill Pickle Club in Chicago, a noted labor organizing site, best known as a center for creative debate, literature and theatre, with its own record publishing company – Dill Pickle Club Records. The Dill Pickle Club was the heart of the "Chicago Renaissance" and served as an intellectual meeting ground for the city's most noted authors, musicians and activists, including Sherwood Anderson, Ben Hecht, Mary MacLane, Lucy Parsons, Kenneth Rexroth and Carl Sandburg. It closed its doors in 1934.

Frank Little (1879- 1917) was a regional labor leader who participated in the Missoula free speech events. He was an organizer for the IWW who had successfully organized miners, loggers, lumbermen and fruit workers in the Pacific Northwest. Little came back to Butte after the miners strike that followed the Granite Mountain Mine fire in 1917 that killed 164 people. Little tried to organize the miners into one union – the IWW at the center – and spoke out against workers entering the military to fight World War I. Poor time associated with patriotic fever, resulted in his death after he was beaten and hanged by men who were rumored to be mining company agents in Butte on August 1, 1917 (New York Times 1917).

Between 1902 and 1912, an industrial boom hit the region, spawning industrial development in the mining and timber/lumber sectors of the economy. Regionally, those sectors were controlled by the Missoula Mercantile/First National Bank/ business complex, whose center of financial activity was in the buildings, all four corners, at the intersection of Higgins Avenue and Front Streets. The Free Speech Fight brought national notoriety to Missoula, and nearly bankrupted the city of Missoula.

On September 25, 2009, Missoula Mayor John Engen proclaimed the northwest corner of the Front and Higgins intersection as Free Speech Corner, and October 2, 2009, as Fight for Free Speech Day.

Developmental history/additional historic context information (if appropriate)

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn published two books about her life: The Rebel Girl, An Autobiography: My First Life (revised edition, 1973) and The Alderson Story: My Life as a Political Prisoner (1955). She was also the "Rebel Girl" in a song of that name by the labor organizer and song writer Joe Hill.

The Rebel Girl
By Joe Hill
1879.10.7-1915.9.19

There are women of many descriptions
In this queer world, as everyone knows.
Some are living in beautiful mansions,
And are wearing the finest of clothes.
There are blue blooded queens and princesses,
Who have charms made of diamonds and pearl;
But the only and thoroughbred lady
Is the Rebel Girl.

CHORUS:

That's the Rebel Girl, that's the Rebel Girl!
To the working class she's a precious pearl.
She brings courage, pride and joy
To the fighting Rebel Boy.
We've had girls before, but we need some more

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

In the Industrial Workers of the World.
For it's great to fight for freedom
With a Rebel Girl.

Yes, her hands may be hardened from labor,
And her dress may not be very fine;
But a heart in her bosom is beating
That is true to her class and her kind.
And the grafters in terror are trembling
When her spite and defiance she'll hurl;
For the only and thoroughbred lady
Is the Rebel Girl.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

DePastino, Todd *Citizen Hobo, How a Century of Homelessness Shaped America*. Chicago, the University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Free Speech Fights. Found at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Free_speech_fights.

Gurley Flynn, Elizabeth *The Rebel Girl: an autobiography, My First Life*. International Publishers Company, Incorporated, 1973.

"I.W.W. Strike Chief Lynched At Butte." *The New York Times*. August 2, 1917.

Johnson Lewis, Jone: *Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Biography of Rebel Girl*. Found online at:
http://womenshistory.about.com/od/elizabethgurleyflynn/a/rebel_girl.htm

"Missoula witness to history of Industrial Workers of the World" *Missoulian*. Story by Kim Briggeman, September 7, 2009.

Toole, John H. *The Baron, the Logger, the Miner and Me*. Missoula, Montana: Mountain Press Publishing Company, 1984.

Work, Clemons *Darkest Before Dawn: Sedition and Free Speech in the American West*. University of New Mexico Press, 2006.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67 has been requested)
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

☐ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☐ Other
Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property ☐ Less than one acre

(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

NAD27

1 12N 271791 5194881
Zone Easting Northing

3
Zone Easting Northing

2
Zone Easting Northing

4
Zone Easting Northing

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

Northwest Corner Higgins Avenue and Front Street, Missoula, Montana

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Original site of Free Speech fight, September, 1909

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Philip Maechling, Historic Preservation Officer

organization Missoula Office of Planning and Grants

date July 22, 2010

street & number 435 Ryman

telephone

city or town Missoula

state Montana

zip code 59802

e-mail pmaechli@co.missoula.mt.us

Property Owner:

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name City of Missoula

street & number 435 Ryman

telephone (406) 552-6001

city or town Missoula

state MT

zip code 59802

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs:

Submit clear and descriptive black and white photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property:

City or Vicinity:

County:

State:

Photographer:

Date Photographed:

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

1 of ____.

please see Continuation Sheets

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, PO Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

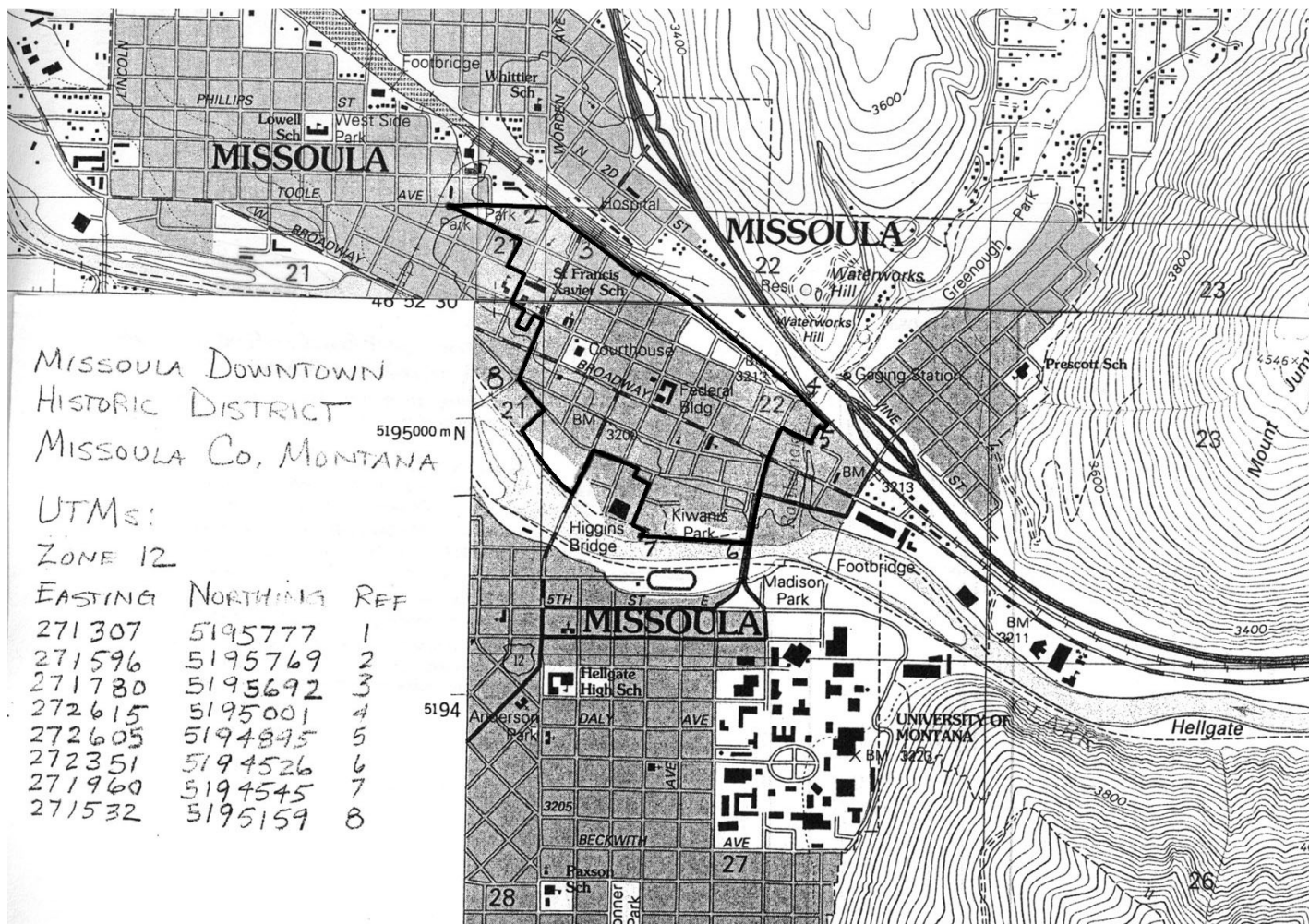
Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State

Maps



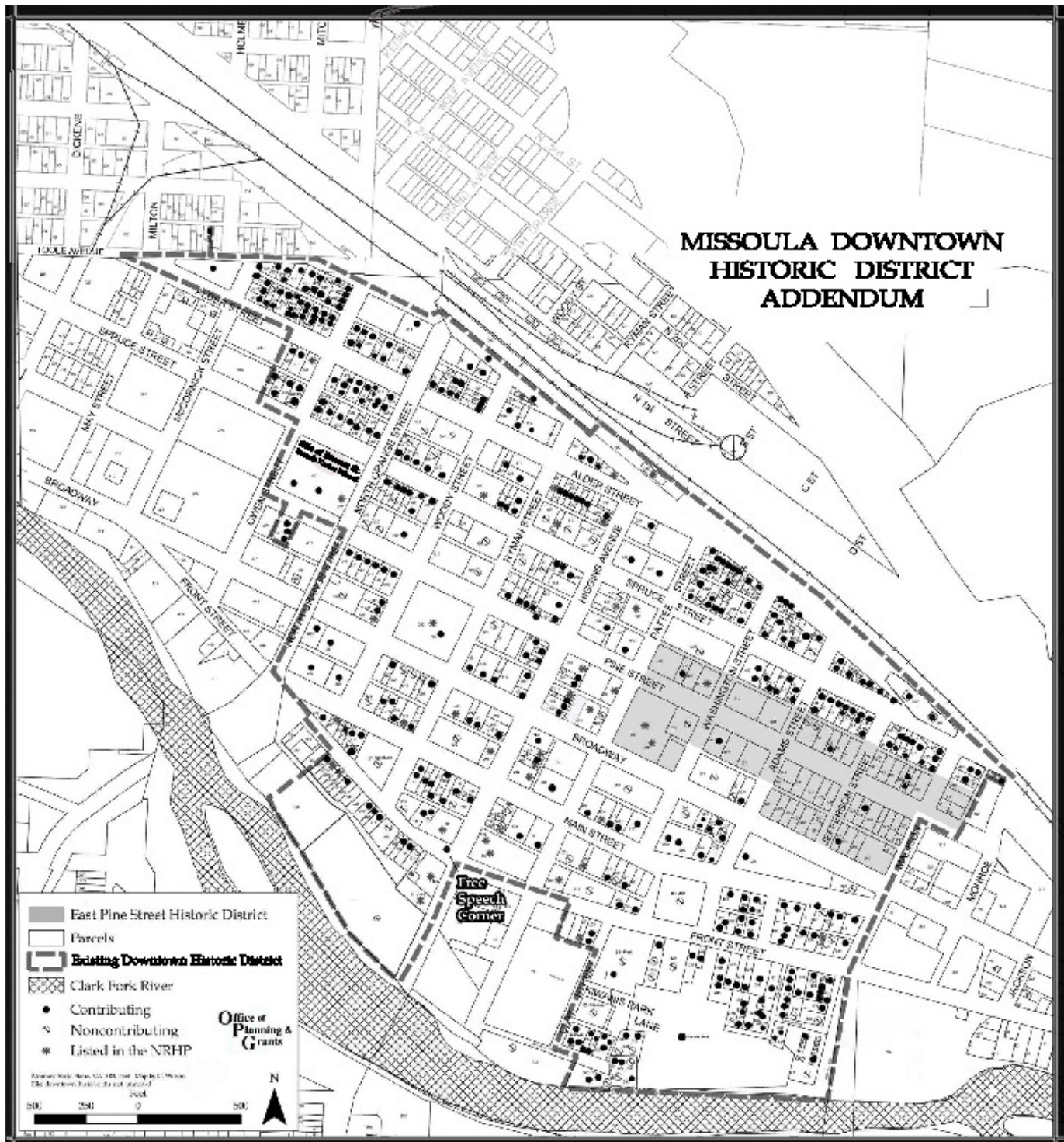
Missoula Downtown Historic District. On Southeast Missoula (1964, photorevised 1978), Northeast Missoula (1964, photorevised 1978), and Northwest Missoula 7.5' quadrangle maps.

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State



Detail of Missoula Downtown Historic District highlighting location of Free Speech Corner and the past location of St. Francis Xavier School.

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)
Name of Property

Missoula, Montana

County and State

Photographs:



Name of Property: Free Speech Corner

City or Vicinity: Missoula

County: Missoula

State: Montana

Photographer: Philip Maechling

Date Photographed: August, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

From South Higgins Avenue looking north at the intersection of Higgins Avenue and Front Street

MT_MissoulaCounty_MissoulaDowntownHDAAddendum_0001

0001 of 0003.

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State



Name of Property: Free Speech Corner

City or Vicinity: Missoula

County: Missoula

State: Montana

Photographer: Unknown

Date Photographed: Before 1909

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

From South Higgins Avenue looking north at the intersection of Higgins Avenue and Front Street.

MT_MissoulaCounty_MissoulaDowntownHDAddendum_0002

0002of 0003

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
(Addition of Free Speech Corner and removal of
St. Francis School)

Missoula, Montana

Name of Property

County and State



Name of Property: Free Speech Corner

City or Vicinity: Missoula

County: Missoula

State: Montana

Photographer: Philip Maechling

Date Photographed: August, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

From East Front Street looking west at the intersection of Higgins Avenue and Front Street

MT_MissoulaCounty_MissoulaDowntownHDAAddendum_0003

0003 of 0003

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum
Name of Property
Missoula County, MT
County and State
Historic Resources of Missoula MPD
Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 17

Additional Documentation (the following historic photos are from "Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, found at:
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Gurley_Flynn)



Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, June 1913.



Flynn (1913) with IWW organizers

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Missoula Downtown Historic District Addendum

Name of Property

Missoula County, MT

County and State

Name of multiple listing (if applicable)

Section number Additional Documentation

Page 18



Cover illustration by Arthur Machin for *The Rebel Girl*. Words & Music by Joe Hill (Ithaca, NY: Glad Day Press, 1940, c1915).